

ranged behind the parent body, the number of lectures and meetings, conferences and schools, rose meetings were going on at the rate of ten to twelve a day Between October 1910 and February 1911, Mr and Mrs Webb addressed more than a hundred meetings, including special courses of lectures in Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and London, the London meetings being at the Caxton Hall, with C F G Masterman, Sydney Holland, Granville Barker, and Maurice Hewlett as chairmen Their personal heroism may be gauged by a note in *The Crusade* recording that

"A special feature was the half-hour receptions before the meetings, which enabled Mr and Mrs Webb to meet and converse with a number of members and of members' friends "

In the summer of 1911, a four-day National Conference on the Prevention of Destitution was held in London, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, and attended by over a thousand delegates There were too many delegates for their comfort, since London happened to be in the middle of a heat-wave¹ Nevertheless, they sat, packed in the various rooms of the Caxton Hall, listening to expert papers and more or less expert discussion on specific aspects of the problem The proceedings were enlivened by a great public meeting at the Albert Hall, which again was packed, with speeches by Arthur Balfour, Sir John Simon (Attorney-General at the time) and Mr Ramsay MacDonald, the leader of the Labour Party The Conference was thor-

oughly non-party in character, nor did either
Mr or Mrs
Webb appear among the speakers at it

After this, in the middle of June, they sailed
from Liver-
pool for Canada, whence they crossed to Japan,
travelling
home via China, Singapore and India Of their
experiences,
which included an escape from Peking in the
last train to
leave that city an escape rendered possible
by the fact